



DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, Dr. Werner Gruppe and Prof. Dr. Hanna Schmidt, declare:

We are citizens of Germany and are residents of:

Dr. Werner Gruppe
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D-35440 Linden
GERMANY
Citizenship: GERMANY

Prof. Dr. Hanna Schmidt
Calvinstr. 16
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Citizenship: GERMANY

We believe ourselves to be the original, first and sole inventors of the improvement entitled PRUNUS ROOTSTOCK NAMED 'GI 209/1' which is described and claimed in United States Plant Patent Application Serial No. 10/723,443, filed November 26, 2003.

We have asexually reproduced the new and distinct variety.

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification, including the claim.

We do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before our invention thereof; or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application; or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to this application.

Said invention has not been patented or been made the subject of an inventor's certificate in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to this application.

We acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

No application for patent or inventor's certificate thereon has been filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States.

We declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

We hereby appoint William H. Logsdon, Registration No. 22,132; Russell D. Orkin, Registration No. 25,363; David C. Hanson, Registration No. 23,024; Richard L. Byrne, Registration No. 28,498; Frederick B. Ziesenhein, Registration No. 19,438; Kent E. Baldauf, Registration No. 25,826; Barbara E. Johnson, Registration No. 31,198; Paul M. Reznick,

Registration No. 33,059; John W. McIlvaine, Registration No. 34,219; Julie W. Meder, Registration No. 36,216; Lester N. Fortney, Registration No. 38,141; Randall A. Notzen, Registration No. 36,882; James G. Porcelli, Registration No. 33,757; Kent E. Baldauf, Jr., Registration No. 36,082; Christian E. Schuster, Registration No. 43,908; Nathan J. Prepelka, Registration No. 43,016; Jessica M. Schroth, Registration No. 47,102; Kirk M. Miles, Registration No. 37,891; James J. Bosco, Registration No. 51,489; Alex Detschelt, Registration No. 50,261; Philip J. Foret, Registration No. 51,689; Gary F. Matz, Registration No. 45,504; Alka A. Patel, Registration No. 49,092; J. Matthew Pritchard, Registration No. 46,228; Darrell E. Williams, Registration No. 45,222; Gwen R. Acker-Wood, Registration No. 51,027; and Patricia A. Olosky, Registration No. 53,411, whose post-office address is 700 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1818, Telephone No. 412-471-8815, our attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, to amend the specification, to appeal in case of rejection, as they may deem advisable, to receive the patent when granted and generally to do all matters and things needful in the premises, as fully and to all intents and purposes as we could do.

All correspondence and telephone calls should be addressed to Russell D. Orkin.

We hereby subscribe our names to the foregoing specification and claim, declaration and power of attorney.

Date 04. März 2004 Inventor W. Gruppe
Dr. Werner Gruppe

Date 10.03.2004 Inventor H. Schmidt
Prof. Dr. Hanna Schmidt